

# EPA's Oil Spill Program



***U.S. EPA***

***Office of Solid Waste and  
Emergency Response***

**Office of Emergency and Remedial Response**

**1-800-424-9346**

**[www.epa.gov/oilspill](http://www.epa.gov/oilspill)**

# U.S. EPA Oil Spill Program

- **Prevention**

- Aboveground Storage Tank Facilities-SPCC

- **Preparedness**

- Facility Response Plans for AST Facilities
  - Area Contingency Plans in Inland Zone

- **Response – Inland Zone**

- National Contingency Plan (NCP)
  - National Response System (NRS)
    - Federal, State, Local, Tribal

# **Clean Water Act (CWA): Overview**

- **Principal federal law protecting navigable waters and adjoining shorelines.**
- **Sec. 311 addresses oil pollution and hazardous releases.**
- **Provides EPA and the US Coast Guard with authority for preventing, preparing for and responding to oil spills.**
- **Implemented through the NCP and Oil Pollution Prevention regulations.**



# **National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) Overview**

- **Addresses both oil spills and hazardous substances releases.**
- **The first NCP came out in 1968 (Torrey Canyon- England).**
- **The 1968 plan- first system on accident reporting:**
  - **spill containment and cleanup.**
  - **established a response headquarters.**
  - **national reaction team, and regional reaction teams.**
- **Amendments in 1972, 1973, 1980 and 1990 broadened the scope of the NCP**

# **National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (NCP) Overview**

- **NCP establishes National Response System**
  - **Responsible Party**
  - **Federal, State, Local, Tribal Agencies**
- **NCP requires that the Area Committees - federal, state and local government officials - develop Area Contingency Plans (ACPs).**

# **The Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA)**

- OPA was signed into law in August 1990
  - **In response to rising public concern after the Exxon Valdez and Ashland incidents**
  - **Improved the nation's ability to prevent and respond to oil spills**
  - **Provides money and resources necessary to respond to oil spills**
    - ✓ **Created the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund**
  - **Provides new requirements for contingency planning by both government and industry**



# **The Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA)**

- **Expanded Federal authority for:**
  - **Assessing penalties,**
  - **Directing responsible party actions**
  - **Cost recovery for federal monitoring, directing or clean-up actions by federal authorities**
  - **Conducting Natural Resource Damage Assessments (NRDA)**



***Ashland Oil Facility, Floreffe, PA***



# Prevention of Oil Spills

## 40 CFR Part 112

- *Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC)* inspections ensure that oil storage facilities can control and prevent spills.
- EPA regulates about **420,000** facilities under **SPCC**.
- Requires secondary containment, Professional Engineer review, inspections, and other measures

# Prevention and Preparedness



- Review Facility Response Plans (FRPs).
  - EPA reviews close to *5,000 high-risk facilities holding one million gallons or more of oil.*
  - Plan and resources to respond



# Preparedness for Oil Spills

- National *Preparedness for Response Exercise Program (PREP)*.
  - EPA works with industry, state and federal agencies.
  - *PREP* drills test government & industry spill response plans.





# Preparedness for Oil Spills

- EPA develops *Area Contingency Plans (ACPs)*:
  - ACPs assign roles to federal government agencies and responsible parties during a cleanup action.
  - Develop *Geographical Information Systems (GIS) mapping*. These are a critical component to area planning and management of environmental data.

# Responses to Oil Spills



- EPA responds to spills that threaten or directly impact inland waters of the United States.
- EPA supports U.S. Coast Guard during spills to the marine environment.
- EPA provides specialized support through the *Environmental Response Team (ERT)*.

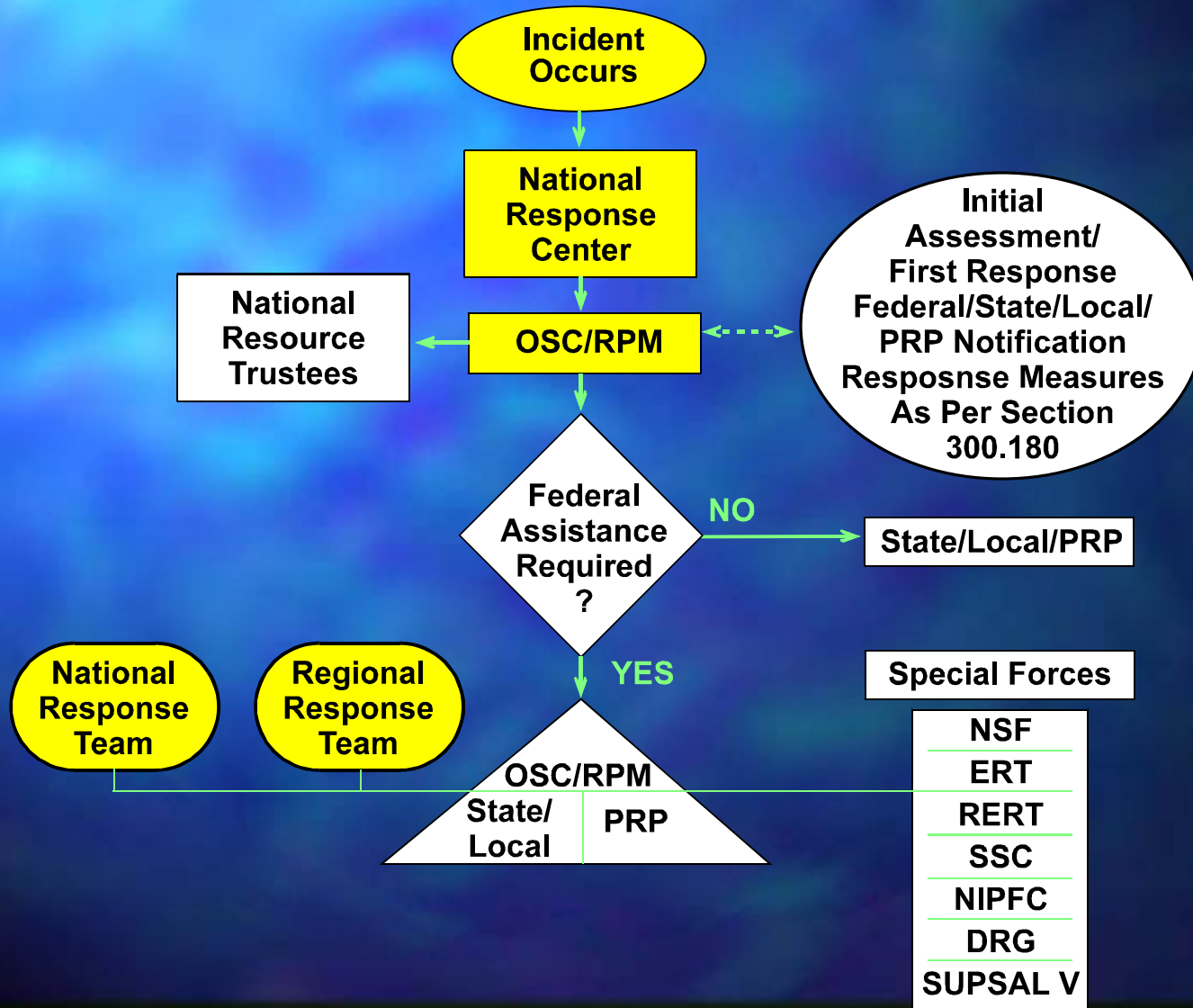


# National Response System

- **NCP establishes National Response System**
  - **Responsible Party (RP)** cleans up spill
  - When RP does not properly respond, then **State, Local, and Tribal agencies** will
  - If spill is beyond their capabilities, or is significant, then **Federal government** will respond or direct response



# Snapshot of the National Response System



# **Four Phases of Response**

- **Discovery and notification (NRC-USCG).**
- **Preliminary assessment and initial action (RP, local, state or FOSC).**
- **Containment, countermeasures, clean-up and disposal (RP, state and/or federal).**
- **Documentation and cost recovery (NRC- USCG).**

# **Important Aspects of Oil Spill Response**

- Securing the source of the release
- Protecting sensitive resources
- Traditional / mechanical activities
- Alternative technologies
  - NCP Product Schedule
- Coordination between agencies
- Project management (ICS)
- Inland / fresh water considerations

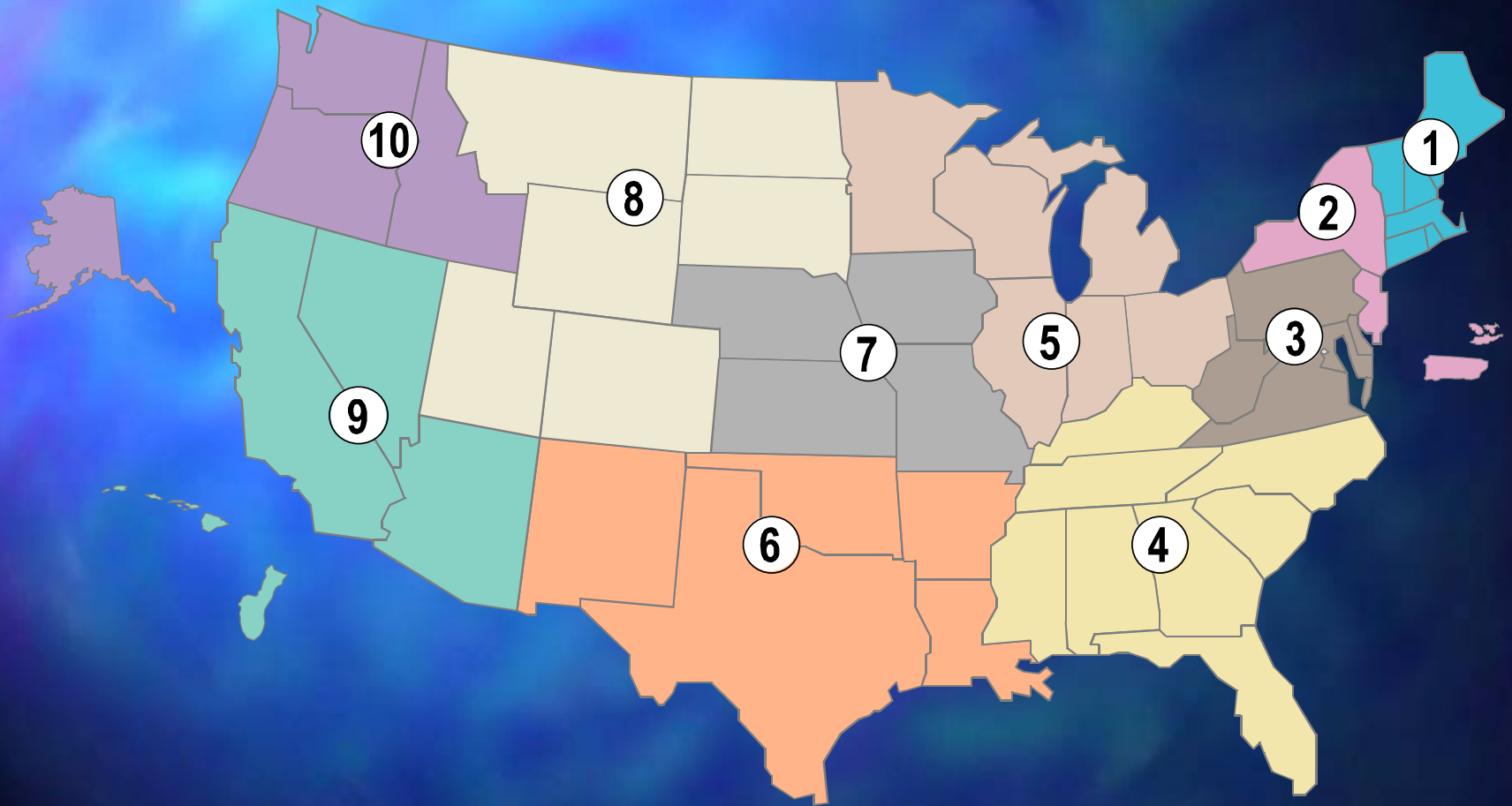


# Environmental Response Team (ERT/ EPA)

- ERT scientists and engineers are available 24 hrs a day to provide technical expertise to oil spill responders in the U.S. and around the world.
- Edison NJ, Cincinnati OH, Las Vegas NV



# EPA's 10 Regions



**NRT**



**THE  
U.S.  
NATIONAL  
RESPONSE  
TEAM**

**NRT**

**Ensuring Effective  
National Oil and  
Hazardous Substances  
Preparedness  
and  
Response**

<http://www.nrt.org/>



# The National Response Center (NRC)

## ■ What is the NRC?

- The federal government's national communications center
- Staffed 24 hours by the U.S. Coast Guard
- Receives reports of hazardous and oil releases
- Triggers the federal notification requirements under several laws.
- Activates the National Contingency Plan and the federal government's response capabilities.
- <http://www.nrc.uscg.mil/index.html>

# **Oil Release Notifications to the NRC:**

- Close to 20,000 releases notified annually to the NRC are oil-related
- Over 80% are in or close to freshwater
- Majority of “significant incidents” are oil spills and many are very large (over 100,00 gallons).

# Examples of Petroleum and Non-Petroleum Oil Substances:

## Petroleum:

- Crude Oil
- Heating Oil
- Jet Fuel
- Kerosene
- Automotive Gasoline
- Diesel

## Non-Petroleum:

- Sunflower Oil
- Soybean Oil
- Fish Oil
- Camphor Oil
- Creosote
- Rapeseed Oil

When in doubt call the NRC! 1-800-424-8802



# EPA Information and Hotlines



- National Response Center (NRC): **800-424-8802**
- NCP Product Schedule Information: **202-260-2342**
- For SPCC, FRP, & OPA Information: **800-424-9346**



***www.epa.gov/oilspill***

***oilinfo@epamail.epa.gov***

# Oil Program Outreach Efforts

- EPA Oil Program Update (on website).
- EPA Oil DROP (on website).
- USEPA Homepage [\*www.epa.gov/oilspill\*](http://www.epa.gov/oilspill)
- SPCC Requirements & Oil Pollution Prevention Practices outreach guides.
- Oil Information Hotline - [\*1-800-424-9346\*](tel:1-800-424-9346).
- Freshwater Spills Symposium.
- International Oil Spill Conference.

# Contacts

- SPCC: Hugo Fleischman  
703- 603-8769
- FRP: Barbara Davis  
703-603-8823
- NCP Product Schedule: Nick Nichols  
703-603-9918
- Oil Program Outreach: Beatriz Oliveira  
703-603-1229
- Oil Program Director: David Evans  
703-603-8760



# THE END



***OIL SPILL PROGRAM***

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**

